

LIBERTY

Published by the Libertarian Party of Colorado

May 2001

The next meeting of the board of directors will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 7 at party headquarters, 720 East 18th Avenue in Denver.

Party members are welcome at the meeting. Please call BetteRose for details: 303.639.5530

www.lpcolorado.org

303.837.9393

www.lp.org

State LP Convention Gains Momentum

"This year's convention promises to be an exciting time for Libertarians across the region to come together to meet friends and share ideas on freedom," said State Chair BetteRose Smith, also active in planning the event.

"We're fortunate to have both the record-breaking Senate candidate (and possible candidate for governor) from Massachusetts, Carla Howell, as well as our own Bill Masters, the nation's only Libertarian Sheriff,"

Smith continued. "Russell Means and Reggie Rivers are attracting interest from individuals who might not otherwise attend a Libertarian event. Rounding out the list of speakers are local activists from the LP and others who take a stand for liberty. I'll see you there!"

You still have time to sign up!

The state Libertarian convention will be held May 18-20. Speakers will include Carla Howell, Reggie Rivers, Russell Means, Sheriff Bill Masters, Bob Glass, and many more! See pages 4-5 for details.

'Deceit Is Central to the Gun Control Movement'

The CU Campus Libertarians hosted a March 21 public lecture on civil arms. Bruce Tiemann criticized the intellectually dishonest arguments employed by gun restriction activists, while Ari Armstrong argued the anti-gun crusade arises from political interests, quasi-religious fervor, and skewed media coverage.

Tiemann told the crowd, "It was what appeared to be the demonization of guns and gun owners that actually got me involved in this subject, and the more

I looked, the more I found dishonesty coming from the gun control camp. The level of deceit ranges from misuse of a single word all the way through the commission of scientific-looking, and widely cited, studies which are based on logical fallacies, and everything in between."

Tiemann's speech is at <http://spot.colorado.edu/~tiemann/cltalk.html>; Armstrong's web page is at www.co-freedom.com.

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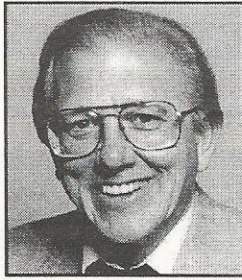
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CU Campus Libertarians host a public discussion about civil arms on March 21. L-r: Mike Huemer, Brian Schwartz, Flux Neo, Bruce Tiemann, Ari Armstrong, Matt Zenthoefer, Elizabeth Bennett, and Joe Johnson.

Election Season Is Just Around the Corner!

by Norm Olsen, Campaigns Director



For voters, the next statewide election is a long way off. For candidates, the election cycle has already begun. As a Libertarian activist, I hope all of you consider yourselves to be potential candidates.

There are certain qualifications required of candidates for political office. Some of these can be bureaucratically painful to meet if the candidate waits too long to deal with the issue. The information contained in this article pertains mostly to state political offices. Check with your county clerk for the specific candidate qualifications for a given county office.

"For candidates, the election cycle has already begun."

An individual qualified to vote in a specific election is an elector. An elector is a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age on or before election day, who has lived in the district of her registration for at least 30 days, and is registered to vote with the County Clerk. (Voter registrations for individuals who have not voted in any election over a period of eight years are automatically purged.)

Moving into a new county, or even a new voter precinct, and failing to re-register with the (possibly new) County Clerk will invalidate your voter registration and status as an elector.

To be a candidate, you must first be a qualified elector; that is, meet all of the above as a bare minimum. The Constitution of the State of Colorado adds additional qualifications for most offices; and the Libertarian Party of Colorado has some requirements that must be met before it will nominate you and place your name on the ballot.

The specific qualification that causes the most trouble is that you must have been a "registered" member of the Libertarian Party of Colorado for at least one year on the day that you are nominated. Two things are of note here.

First, you need not be a dues-paying member of the party to be a candidate. Being an active dues-paying member will certainly improve your chances of being nominated by the party, but it is not a legal requirement for being a candidate.

Not being a dues-paying member will not legally preclude the party from nominating you. Being registered with the County Clerk as a Libertarian is, however, a specific legal requirement. Thus, you could be a dues-paying member and contribute a million dollars a year to the party, but if the records maintained by the County Clerk in your county do not show you as affiliated with the Libertarian party, the party cannot legally nominate you.

Second, the important date here is the date upon which you are nominated by the party, not the day of the election. The last day that the party can officially nominate you and still get you on the ballot is the 120th day before the day of the election. So, this means that the state election records, as maintained by your local County Clerk, must show you registered as a Libertarian at least 16 months before the actual day of the election in which you desire to run.

This requirement is problematic as the County Clerk's records are often incorrect, especially if you have moved since you last filed a registration form. Normally, we don't care as long as we can vote. When becoming a candidate, however, it is crucial that the County Clerk's records are correct, especially with regard to party affiliation.

So, as a project for the month of May, I ask all Libertarians to call or visit their County Clerk's Office of Elections, and verify that your name, address, and party affiliation are correctly recorded. Further, should you move to a new county between now and the next state-wide election (November 2002), be sure to verify that the new County Clerk has a correct record of your new address, when you moved, your party affiliation, and the last date at which you declared your party affiliation. That is, it is important that the records showing how long you have been registered as a Libertarian are accurately transferred to the new county.

"Election" continued on page 14

LIBERTY

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Howell Shreds Anti-Gun Law at Hearing

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Carla Howell won a record 308,860 votes in her year 2000 "small government is beautiful" Libertarian campaign for U.S. Senate against Ted Kennedy. A business consultant with an MBA from Babson College, Howell has worked in the private sector for 25 years in engineering, marketing, and management in the fields of high tech and health care. She is considering a run for governor of Massachusetts in 2002. Howell will attend the Colorado Libertarian Convention in May (see pages 4-5 for details).

On April 3, Howell presented the following remarks to the Massachusetts House Committee on Public Safety.

This is anti-gun law Chapter 180. And here's where it belongs. [Howell shreds Chapter 180 of the Acts of 1998 before the Committee and 231 attendees, many of whom were there to testify for or against anti-gun laws.]

Today, the Committee on Public Safety is here to hear bills that will reform old, flawed laws or add new, flawed laws to the Massachusetts General Laws.

Where are the bills to repeal harmful laws? Where are the bills to remove ineffective laws? Where are the bills to eliminate legislative blunders of the past?

Our State Legislators use too many pens, and not enough erasers.

As Henry David Thoreau said, "Our lives are frittered away in needless detail. Simplify. Simplify."

Our freedoms are shredded by needless legislative detail. We must Simplify. Simplify.

I could speak on behalf of Senate Bill 1244. I support 1244. As reforms go, it is better than most. It mitigates the damage done by earlier Anti-Gun Laws.

Yet Senate Bill 1244 does not go far enough. Not nearly far enough.

We must repeal all Massachusetts General Laws that prevent honest and responsible adults from owning or possessing, selling or buying firearms.

Why?

State legislators and law enforcement officials rarely, if ever, put their legislation to a scientific test. What are the verifiable consequences of the law? Does the law make things better? Or does it make things

worse? Does the law move us closer to its objective? Or does it take us further away?

1. Anti-Gun Laws do not work. They do not accomplish their objectives. They intimidate and instill fear in the honest and innocent. They hinder and stop good people from defending themselves. They cause good and decent people to live in fear. But criminals have little difficulty in acquiring illegal weapons. Anti-Gun Laws give criminals the advantage. And peace of mind.

2. Anti-Gun Laws often make things worse for the very people they're intended to help. Waiting periods give stalkers time to terrorize. Complex and difficult laws stand between good people and self-defense. Discretionary laws guarantee that all citizens are equal, but some are more equal than others.

3. Anti-Gun Laws create new problems. They feed an obscenely profitable black market in firearms. Run by criminals. Anti-Gun Laws turn a harmless mistake or oversight by an honest gun owner into a felony. They clog our courts with needless cases, while criminals remain armed and dangerous.

4. Anti-Gun Laws are wasteful and costly. Honest gun owners are forced to pay special taxes and fees. Anti-Gun Laws treat responsible gun owners like ex-convicts on parole.

5. Anti-Gun Laws divert money and attention from positive and productive activities. Every hour that law enforcement officials spend on licenses forms, permits and other red tape is an hour they cannot spend pursuing and apprehending violent criminals.

This Committee has before it new laws and reforms to old laws.

But where are the bills to Repeal? Where are the bills to Simplify?

As a first step toward streamlining the Massachusetts General Laws, I propose that we immediately repeal Chapter 180 of the Acts of 1998. I propose we remove it. Eliminate it. Erase it.

I propose we shred this Anti-Gun, Anti-Safety legislation. Shredding Chapter 180 is a bold first step toward greater public safety and responsible gun ownership. Thank you.



"Our State Legislators use too many pens, and not enough erasers."

The 2001 LIBERTARIAN CONVENTION COMMON GROUND

Party Building Through Minorities
and Parallel Organizations.

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MAY
18th-19th-20th
2001

Banquet & Dance

Awards Luncheon

Suite Parties

Banquet & Dance

Awards Luncheon

Suite Parties

PJ MOORE

PJ Moore, a nationally touring Headline Comedian, has a strong performance history. He has done voice-over work, a stint as a radio DJ, and has also recorded two full length folk song albums.

PJ Moore's humorous writings have been featured in Playboy Magazine. He has appeared on *Colorado PM* and in *The Denver Post*, as well as many other publications.

BILL GROOM

Bill Groom is an attorney, writer, seminar leader, and executive vice president of Cynergetics Institute, a nonprofit organization that presents personal and organizational development seminars. Cynergetics Institute is also working to establish a restorative justice council to provide financial and educational support for existing and new restorative justice programs.

ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS

Christie Donner - Christie is currently working with women in prison for drug offenses and helps to oversee the welfare of their minor children.

Shariar Ghalam - Shariar grew up in Iran where he was a member of the Armed Forces. At 22, he escaped to America seeking liberty.

Bob Glass - Bob is the owner of Paladin Arms and the publisher of one of Colorado's newest libertarian magazines, *The Partisan*.

Desiree Hickson - Desiree was a candidate for State House in 2000.

Jerry Sonnenberg - Jerry is a current board member of the Colorado Farm Bureau.

Emma Phillips - Emma is the State Coordinator for F.A.M.M. (Families Against Mandatory Minimums). She is also the founder of Friends and Families.

Steve Givot - National's Steve Givot will be hosting 2 seminars on Team Building and "Intentional Dialog."

REGISTER TODAY AND SAVE

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PRICES ARE FOR REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED BEFORE May 10, 2001

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<input type="checkbox"/> 2 DAY WITH BANQUET:	\$129	\$149
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL BANQUET:	\$45	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 DAY NO BANQUET:	\$99	\$109
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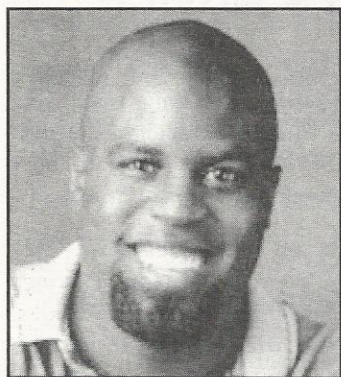
720 East 18 Avenue, #309

Denver, CO 80203

303-837-9393

Remember, there is no charge for attending business meetings or candidate elections.

REGGIE RIVERS



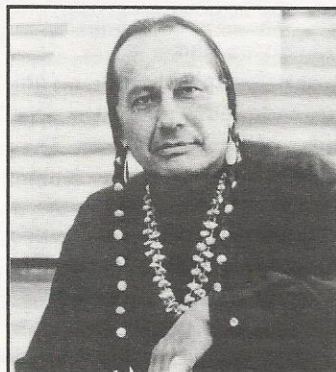
Metro Denver's hottest Libertarian-leaning talk show host will be one of the exciting speakers at the Gala Banquet on Saturday night.

Former running back and special teams player for the Denver Broncos, Reggie had, for two years, hosted his own show on KOA Radio and is currently hosting a daily, drive-time show on 630 KHOW Radio.

RUSSELL MEANS

The Libertarian Party of Colorado Convention 2001 is pleased to bring you one of the biggest, baddest, meanest and most famous American Indian activists of the twentieth century.

In his widely-praised 1997 autobiography, *Where White Men Fear To Tread*, Means tells the story of his political evolution, including his encounter with libertarian ideas and the Libertarian Party.

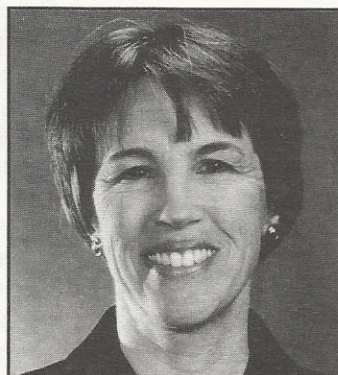


This Year - INTRODUCE A FRIEND TO LIBERTY!
Additional Banquet ticket only \$40 with each full price 2 day convention ticket. OR 1/2 PRICE for all students and non or *new libertarians with each full price 2 day convention ticket.

*Non-member and not registered Libertarian as of 1/1/01

CARLA HOWELL

Carla Howell's bold Libertarian "small government is beautiful" campaign for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts, set new Libertarian records. In Massachusetts, where there are 470,000 registered Republicans versus 16,000 registered Libertarians. In a six-way contest for Ted Kennedy's seat for U.S. Senate, Carla Howell finished just 1 percentage point behind the Republican candidate.



SATURDAY'S GALA BANQUET & DANCE



EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, May 18

7:00 PM ---Open House Introduction
Entertainment & Suite Parties

Saturday, May 19

8:00 AM ---Coffee	Coffee
Philosophy	Activism
9:00 AM ---Seminar	Business
Philosophy	Board Reports
10:00 AM ---Keynote Speaker	
11:00 AM ---Seminar	Business
Philosophy	Bylaws
12:00 PM ---Awards Luncheon	
1:00 PM ---Special Guest	
2:00 PM ---Seminar	Business
Philosophy	Campaigns
3:00 PM ---Seminar	Seminar
Philosophy	Campaigns
4:00 PM ---Seminar	Seminar
Philosophy	Campaigns
6:00 PM ---Cocktail Party	
7:00 PM ---Banquet and Dance	

Sunday, May 20

8:00 AM ---Coffee	Coffee
Philosophy	Campaigns
9:00 AM ---Seminar	Seminar
Philosophy	Activism
10:00 AM ---Seminar	Seminar
Philosophy	Activism
11:00 AM ---Lunch - on your own	
12:00 PM ---Seminar	Seminar
Philosophy	Activism
1:00 PM ---Business- Board Elections	
2:00 PM ---Special Guest	
3:00 PM ---Closing Speaker	
4:00 PM ---New Board Meets	

Innocent Victim Heeded Jefferson's Advice

by Sheriff Bill Masters

Sheriff Masters presented the following speech to the Pro Second Amendment Committee in Grand Junction, March 10, 2001. Masters is the highest ranking Libertarian official in Colorado and the nation's only Libertarian sheriff. His web page is at <http://libertybill.net>. The Sheriff will attend the state LP convention in May.

I am really proud to be an American. We don't say that often enough today.

I thought of this when I was watching the news last week and they were interviewing one of the former directors of the CIA. They were talking about the FBI agent who was a spy for the Russians for 15 years. The

reporter was questioning the director about how we could prevent such an incident in the future—should they use polygraphs on all the agents, better background investigations, and different investigative techniques? And the director had an interesting response. He stated the best defense against these kinds of spies is to have spies in the foreign service of our enemy's government. In that way, foreigners who are spying for the United States could tell us when our adversaries have spies in our government.

He went on to say that American traitors, like this FBI agent, who spy on our country usually do so for money and seldom do it for philosophical reasons, whereas the foreigners that volunteer to spy for

the US on their governments usually do so out of a philosophical belief that the principles the United States represents are superior to those of the government of their homeland.

He then stated, and this is the important part, "Thomas Jefferson is still our best recruiter." At times tonight, I am going to bore you with some Jefferson.

"A strong body makes a strong mind. As to the species of exercises I advise the gun. While this gives moderate exercises to the body it gives boldness, enterprise and independence to the mind. Let your gun, therefore, be the constant companion of your walks." (Thomas Jefferson)

Zeke Hernandez's family are proud Americans. They have a small ranch along the Rio Grande bordering

Mexico, near the Texas town of Redford, population 100. The land there is poor, dry, mostly overgrown desert foliage and weeds. Zeke is a sophomore at the local high school, probably not going to Harvard, but known as a nice boy and well liked by his classmates.

Zeke likes to raise goats on his father's ranch. He enjoys the responsibility, like many his age, of caring for the animals. Every day, after school, he takes the goats out of their pens and herds them on the ranch, allowing them to forage on the scrub desert plants that only a goat would enjoy.

Years ago, Zeke was given an antique .22 caliber rifle by his grandfather. Now, when herding his goats, he always takes the little .22 with him to do some plinking and fend off the coyotes or wild dogs that come up to prey upon the goats.

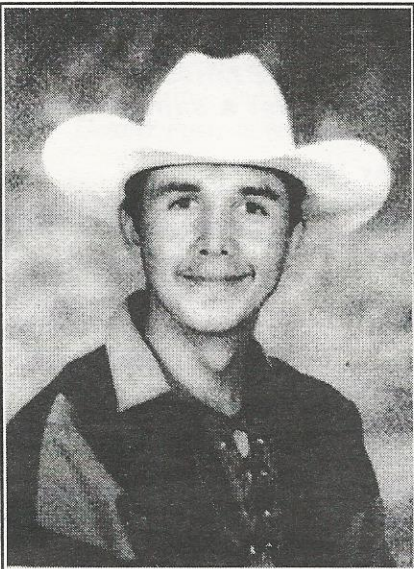
But on this day, Zeke didn't see four US Marines assigned to "Joint Task Force Six" drug interdiction team. The plinking Zeke and his goats stumble into the camouflaged Marines' ambush formation. The Marines, doing nothing more than what they are trained to do, without warning, shoot and kill Zeke, thereby eliminating an armed threat to their mission of policing United States soil.

"Let your gun be your constant companion."

Donald Scott, age 62, was a wealthy man. He lived on a beautiful 250-acre ranch in California, which bordered a federal park. The feds wanted to buy his ranch to include in the park, but Mr. Scott was not interested in selling. Federal agents flew over the house and claimed they saw marijuana growing on the property. They obtained a search warrant for the ranch.

In the early morning hours of the next day, a pounding on the door to their home awakened Mr. Scott and his wife Frances. When Mrs. Scott attempted to open the door, a group of narcotics task force deputies burst into the house with guns in their hands. Mrs. Scott was pushed forcefully to the ground, a gun aimed at her head. She pleaded, "Please don't shoot me!" Hearing his wife's pleas, Mr. Scott armed himself with a revolver and ran out of his bedroom, only to be shot and killed instantly by the raiding officers. No marijuana plants or drugs of any kind were found on the Scott property.

Sixty-nine year old Ralph Garrison of New Mexico was awakened before sunrise one morning after hearing someone trying to break into the rental house next door that he owned. Knowing his tenants were out of town, he went outside to investigate. He saw a



Esequiel Hernandez, Jr. was killed by U.S. Marines near his home.

group of armed men on his property wearing dark clothing and black masks. He returned to his house and called 911. According to the reporters who listened to those 911 tapes, Mr. Garrison's voice is filled with "fear and panic."

Garrison then armed himself with a pistol and a cell phone and went to his back door to wait for the police to arrive. Three members of a police SWAT team who were busy breaking down the door of Mr. Garrison's unoccupied rental house immediately shot 12 rounds from their AR-15 assault rifles into Mr. Garrison as he stood in his own doorway. He was killed instantly.

Police in Texas were using a paid informant to buy \$30 worth of drugs. The informant claimed he had purchased drugs at Annie Rae Dixon's house. The police raided the home, shot, and killed the 84 year old bedridden Mrs. Dixon. No illegal drugs were found in her home.

Ismael Mena from Mexico, father of nine, came to the United States legally for work to support his family. He worked night shift at the Coca-Cola bottling plant. He was in his bedroom sleeping during the day, when the Denver police department SWAT team raided his apartment after obtaining a "no knock" search warrant for drugs. Mr. Mena, awakened by the black-clothed officers breaking down his door, armed himself with a .22 caliber pistol. Officers stormed into his bedroom and ordered him to drop the pistol. He started to drop the pistol; then, according to the SWAT team, he questioned, "Polica?" He was immediately shot in the head and chest, at which point, according to the officers, he reached for the gun again and in fact discharged the gun, but was shot six more times and killed. No illegal drugs were found in Mena's home.

Investigation revealed the police raided the wrong house. The narcotics officer in charge of the case, according to district attorney Dave Thomas, made false statements, knowing they were false, in order to obtain the search warrant. The officer was charged with three felonies, including perjury. However, he was allowed to plead guilty to a misdemeanor so he could retain his job as a police officer in Denver. He was recently given nine months of back pay, almost \$40,000, and reinstated as a police officer for the city of Denver.

Regarding the controversy over the officer's reinstatement, Denver mayor Wellington Webb stated, "Mr. Mena would still be alive today if he just didn't have a gun."



Sheriff Bill Masters chats with a group of boys at the Pro-Second Amendment Committee's Annual Awards Banquet, March 10. The Committee recognizes youth through its essay contest.

"Let your gun be your constant companion."

Now, I have 30 or so more cases I could continue to bore you with. I could talk about 11-year-old Alberto Sulpuveda, unarmed, lying face down on the floor of his bedroom as ordered by a SWAT team, shot in the back and killed with a 12-gauge.

I am talking about kids, old ladies, completely innocent people, shot and killed not by gangs, not by robbers or drug dealers, schoolyard shooters or kids playing with guns, but by those sworn to protect our lives.

One police bureaucrat stated these shootings were "unintentional but not mistakes."

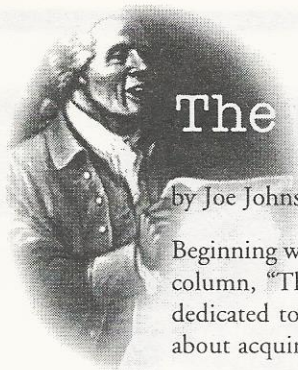
And then we have the gall, to put it politely, to tell you we need a law to force you to put trigger locks on your guns.

There is a reason why we are allowing these shootings to happen. We are in a war, a war on drugs. And during a time of war, innocent people get in the way sometimes. People's rights have to be placed on the back burner.

It is interesting to me that most of us concerned about the erosion of the Second Amendment have all heard of Ruby Ridge and Waco, but because it was a "drug raid" we calmly accept the deaths of ranchers, businessmen, old ladies, children and even innocent goatherders.

Masters' speech will be continued in the next issue.

*"We are in a war,
a war on drugs.
And during a time
of war, innocent
people get in the
way sometimes."*



The Activist's Corner

by Joe Johnson

Beginning with this issue, the *Liberty* will feature a new column, "The Activist's Corner" This column will be dedicated to those of you who want to do something about acquiring liberty, not just talk about it.

Here we'll discuss ideas and plans for those Libertarians out "in the trenches." It will be a place for you to discuss ideas on how to advance the cause of freedom in Colorado.

We will tell stories of heroes in action, discuss ways that you can work toward liberty, and introduce you to others who are doing what you're doing... advancing liberty!



If you participate in an activity that is directly helping to grow the party, and you would like to share it with the membership, this is the place. We have only one rule: "no couch potatoes!"

Any and all ideas must be things that you, or someone you know, has actually done.

There are plenty of ideas floating around, and this column is only for those who are actually *doing* them. Ideas need not be stellar, such as single handedly running a booth at the state fair and registering 100 new Libertarian voters. It can be as simple as watching someone read an LP brochure that you left on the counter at a coffee shop, or handing out brochures in front of your local grocery store. As long as you actually did it, we want to know about it. If you have been walking around with that "perfect" idea, but haven't done it yet, now is the time! Then let us know about it.

This month's story comes from Yours Truly. The topic is "fun with the World's Smallest political Quiz."

About six months ago, while eating breakfast at the Le Peep restaurant in Cherry Creek, I went to the bathroom to wash my hands. After I washed and dried my hands, and went to leave the men's room, I placed a copy of "The World's Smallest Political Quiz" upon the paper towel dispenser (as I always do).

Several minutes after returning to my table, the gentleman seated at the table next to ours got up and went to the men's room. When he returned, he had the quiz in hand. As he sat in his chair, he asked his wife/girlfriend for a pen. He then proceeded to take the quiz. When asked by his significant other what he was doing, he said that he was taking a political quiz.

Upon completing the quiz, his female friend asked again just what it was. He responded that it was a quiz, apparently put out by the Libertarian Party. When asked what a Libertarian was, he responded, "I'm not sure, but apparently, I'm one!"

As this couple left the restaurant, I could see this man verbally administering the quiz to his lady friend. We all know that the press is not giving us anywhere near the publicity that they shower upon the Rs and Ds, and so we must earn it ourselves.

What happened at this restaurant on that day is a clear example of the effect that each of us can have with even the slightest effort on a daily basis. More importantly, we can never know just how many others were affected in the same way as this man. I have personally placed no fewer than a thousand of these cards in stores, restaurants, and gas stations all over the Denver/Boulder Metro area in the past six months.

These cards can be purchased directly from the LP national headquarters for \$1.00 per 100 (that's only 1 cent each!) on the web at www.lp.org/services/store or by calling 1.800.ELECT.US and asking for "sales."

There are also different versions available from the Advocates for Self-Government at www.reliablehost.com/self-gov/wspq.html.

This is just one way that you can help spread the word of Liberty, and the Libertarian Party, with little cost or effort. And if the gentleman who picked up the card at the Le Peep restaurant last year has joined the party, and thus is reading this, please drop me a line: I'd love to meet you.

Liberty in my lifetime!

Joe Johnson

Please send your experiences and/or comments to Elizabeth and Joe at athenstar.co@verizon.net.

Libertarians to Rally for Self-Defense

On Sunday, May 13, the LP and TRT will rally in support of the right of self-defense, against the gun-grabbing "Million" Mom organization. The rally will begin at noon at the state capitol.

Stand up for your rights! Join us!

Feel free to bring posters and signs.

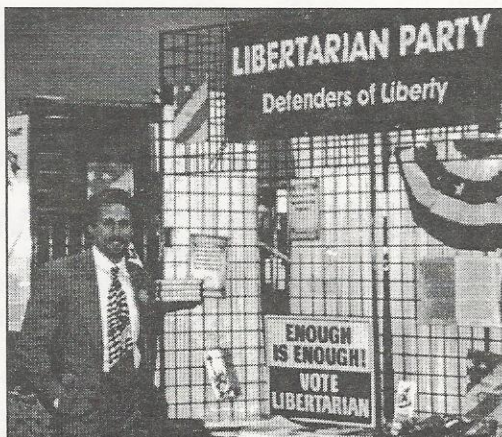
"When asked
what a
Libertarian
was, he
responded,
'I'm not sure,
but apparently,
I'm one!'"

Outreach Booth Draws New Members

by Joe Johnson

The COLP Outreach Booth celebrates its first birthday! It's hard to believe, but the COLP has had a constant presence at the Denver metro gun shows for more than a year now. In January 2000, we set up a table at the Tanner hunting and fishing show in Adams county. Because of the positive response, we went back to the February show. After that show, we announced our success, and asked for your help to raise funds to attend the show on a regular basis.

As a result of your support, we built a first rate booth which many of you have seen either at one of the shows or at last year's LP convention. The response that we received from those attending the show was so overwhelmingly positive that we attended the Crossroads of the West show later that month. We have been doing both of these shows on a monthly basis ever since.



As election season drew near, we began to set up the booth at the smaller county shows in Loveland, Fort Collins, Brighton, and Longmont. Because of this expanded presence, we were once again forced to turn to you, the membership for financial help, and again, many of you came through, and we were able to maintain our presence at these shows.

We felt that because of the looming threat of Amendment 22, we would be very popular (and we were right), and we would be able to benefit by showing sportsmen and gun owners that they are not alone as they stand up for their rights.

To date, we are averaging 9.5 new Libertarian voter registrations, 1.75 new dues-paying members, and 35 requests for more information. We hit an all time high last month at the Crossroads show with 16 new Libertarian voter registrations, 5 new dues-paying memberships, and 55 requests for more information!

Gun owners are beginning to realize that only the Libertarian party will protect their rights. We were at 18 such shows in 2000, and 5 so far in 2001.

But gun owners are not the only people whose rights are being encroached upon. The next two groups who have their heads on the proverbial chopping block are computer users and private party "Rave" attendees. The first group faces threats of internet taxation and

censorship, while the second group faces government threats of being shut down. (Some states have already restricted bottled water and phosphorescent light sticks at private parties—calling them "drug paraphernalia!")

As a result, we at the COLP outreach team know that we need to begin taking our message of liberty to these people. As you read this, a tri-fold brochure titled "Your right to 'Rave'" is in the final phase of editing. We have also begun work on a tri-fold brochure discussing the LP's views against internet censorship

and taxation. It is our goal to present these new brochures at the outreach booth at computer shows and raves by the end of the summer.

But we once again are forced to ask for your help. Despite the great successes over the past year, these shows cost us money each and every show. As we gear up to expand into other venues, we're going to have our backs against the wall financially.

We do not want to abandon our successes at the gun shows, but we know that we need to expand to other venues, and so we are asking, once again, for your help.

Our team of volunteers has been growing, and we will continue our string of success, but we can only do so with your help. Will you send in a donation to help us expand the message of liberty?

Even a small donation will make a world of difference. In fact, while it costs us on average \$150 to set up a single show, we have been expanding our selection of 'for donation' items, so the net cost of a show is now less than \$40.

Can you sponsor a booth for a show with a donation of \$40? Please remember what you would be buying for \$40. While we can offer no guarantee, and some shows are better than others, we are currently averaging 9.5 new Libertarian registrations, 1.75 new dues-paying members, and 35 requests for information PER SHOW! Is that worth \$40 to you? Is this what you want from your outreach team?

Would you like to see us at computer shows and "raves?" If so, PLEASE send in a donation today. Mail donations to 720 E. 18th Ave. #309, Denver, CO 80203 Or call in your credit card donation to 303.837.9393. Please specify that the donation should be earmarked for the outreach effort.

"We hit an all time high last month at the Crossroads show with 16 new Libertarian voter registrations, five new dues-paying memberships, and 55 requests for more information!"

Raft Trip Planned to Benefit LP



On Saturday July 7 there will be a "Rafting for Liberty" trip. The cost is \$80 for LP members (\$85 for non-members), with an additional \$10 off for children under 12. The trip includes a bus ride, six hours on the Arkansas river (Brown's Canyon), and lunch (if you want dinner or snacks, pack 'em). The bus will leave Denver NO LATER than 7:00 am, and will return at or about 7:00 pm.

A non-refundable 50% deposit must be in to the COLP no later than May 20 (last day of the state convention). All proceeds benefit the Colorado Libertarian Party. Checks, Visa&Mastercard, or good ol' cash accepted; make checks payable to the "Libertarian Party of Colorado." Wet suits and helmets are available at an additional cost upon arrival at the river.

Rapids through Brown's Canyon are rated at class-three out of five classes, one being dead calm and five being the roughest. (This means that it should be fun for the whole family—age and weight restrictions eight years and 75 pounds.) Whether you have never been white water rafting, or you are a seasoned expert, you simply must not miss this opportunity to spend a day of fun on the river with freedom-minded people, and help the cause of liberty in the process!

Trip Will Proceed Rain or Shine

For more information, please contact Ken Bray at kbray@us.ibm.com or 303.924.4051.

Minorities Hurt by 'Smart' Growth

Independence Institute Release: Survey Finds 95% of Colorado Legislators Own Homes as they Vote to Limit Housing for Others

On April 6 Jon Caldara revealed the results of an Independence Institute survey showing that 68% of Colorado's general population own homes while the Colorado Legislature boasts a whopping 95% ownership rate.

In a press conference held Friday morning at the State Capitol, the Independence Institute president said the legislature is being pressured to approve "smart growth" measures which would have the combined effect of driving up home prices statewide and increasing the value of the legislators' home investments.

"The Independence Institute thought it would be interesting to find out how many legislators already own their own homes, because these individuals would be rewarded with increased home values by voting for growth controls, Caldara told the reporters, adding that minorities such as blacks and Hispanics will be hurt the most.

One such black American, Gene Berry, was on hand to

say that home buying is already tough enough for struggling minority families. Berry told the press that he had been trying to qualify for a home loan for six months so that he, his wife and their two children could fulfill the American Dream of owning their own home. He said he was afraid the "smart growth" measures being considered by the legislature could eliminate his ability to qualify.

Although Coloradans in general own homes by 68%, according to recent U.S. Census Bureau figures, black families only own homes by 46% and Hispanic families by 45%. Seventy percent of white families own their homes.

"It's much easier to vote to limit housing choice and opportunities for others when you already own your own home," Caldara chided the legislators.

Those that argue that "smart growth" policies do not raise home prices have not looked at the documented figures from cities that are already limiting growth, such as Portland and Boulder, Caldara said.

"Basically," Caldara pointed out, "it's a group of white guys with homes who are voting to deny homes to Colorado's working families."

Montrose Snuffs Out Property Rights

The Western Slope Libertarian Party fought valiantly. Unfortunately, a Montrose law passed that prohibits business owners from allowing smoking on their private property. Lane Mills, WSLP Media Coordinator, said, "I guess six weeks just wasn't long

enough to overcome the two years of lies the anti-rights folks had as an advantage. It was a good day to die. We will regroup and decide what to do next. We lost the election by 299 votes; we had a 66% turnout—the largest in Montrose mail-in ballot history. Our spirits are temporarily down, but we are not finished with this issue."

*"It's much easier
to vote to limit
housing choice
and opportunities
for others when
you already own
your own home."*

Press Watch

Gun Control Kills

The following letter was printed in the March 22 edition of the Rocky Mountain News.

Gun control kills again! A gun-free school full of defenseless victims is a dream come true for a lunatic mass shooter: it maximizes his chances of inflicting harm and his fame is guaranteed, courtesy of the media.

Despite strict victim-disarmament laws, armed civilians have occasionally been successful in stopping school shootings, such as at Mississippi's Pearl High School, where Joel Myrick got a gun from his car and detained the shooter as he headed to another school.

Guns are effective crime-detering tools—ask the police! However, the security guards at Santee were unarmed by force of law. The choice of schooling our children where they can be defended is forbidden. What about other public shootings? Do they typically occur where gun rights are supported or violated? Let's see... guns were banned at the Xerox office in Hawaii, the Long Island Railroad, the Empire State Deck, Luby's cafeteria, the Washington National Zoo, and Navistar Inc. At Edgewater Technologies in Wakefield, Mass., an out-of-state carry permit was not honored and its disarmed holder was murdered.

How many more lives will it take before people finally stand up against the rich gun-control, victim-disarmament lobby, and for self-defense? After all, "if it saves only one life, it's worth it," right?

Valeria B. Damiao

Sales Tax Pothole Dodged

The following letter appeared in the April 1 edition of the Colorado Springs Gazette. The Libertarian party of El Paso County was successful in helping to defeat the tax.

This coming election, Springs residents will go to the polls to vote on the largest tax hike in the history of our city known as SCIP01. Sadly, even the editors of the Gazette have signed onto this unprecedented bureaucratic windfall. Should it pass, we will surely see SCIP02, SCIP03, etc. By the time we get to SCIPXXV, the potholes may actually get filled. Don't bet on it.

Perhaps the voters should heed the words of the Baltimore Sun's famous iconoclast, H. L. Mencken, who wrote, "Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want and deserve to get it good and hard." On Tuesday, April 3, the voters will test the validity of his hypothesis.

James R. Vade Bon Coeur

Bureaucrat On My Back

The following letter was published February 8 in the Arvada and Lakewood Sentinels.

Herbert Spencer, a century and a half ago, recognized that "prosperity really due to the abandonment of all legislation, is ascribed to a particular kind of legislation" by those empowered to write bills. And so England retained her trend toward socialism and bankruptcy.

Today our so-called representatives follow the Old World pattern of increasing government meddling in the marketplace. Those who now want a nifty mountain monorail along I-70 should get a life. If it is such a great idea, they should go into the monorail business (privately). They can invest their own time and money supplying whatever real demand exists.

Oh, I know, the politicians will come up with another bond issue which supposedly will not increase government and consequent taxes. But again, those bright idealists can create a private bond issue, do the work and earn the money. And get off the taxpayers' backs.

Gregg Miller
2000 Colorado HD 29 Libertarian Candidate

Libertarian Tax Plan

The following letter appeared in the March 17 edition of the Rocky Mountain News.

Over the past month there has been much ado about cutting taxes. The Republicans favor a tax cut that would most benefit the industrial class (currently those paying the highest taxes). The argument being that this would give a boost to our economy by creating jobs and lowering prices—an economically sound idea.

The Democrats favor a tax cut that would favor the middle-income working class, arguing that helping these families will give a boost to the economy by allowing an increase in consumer spending—a very valid point.

I question only why we need to choose, pitting Americans against Americans. The Libertarians favor a tax cut that would benefit *all* classes of Americans, by cutting the taxes that we all pay, and reducing the government waste which has been used to justify the taxes in the first place. Sound like a true "bipartisan" solution to you?

Joe Johnson
Assistant Outreach Director, Colorado LP

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"How many more
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lobby, and for
self-defense?"

Total Repeal

The following letter was published March 7, 2001 in the Wall Street Journal. It was one of three letters published under the heading, "Let's Get High on Relieving Pain."

The most important thing about your article was the very telling idea that so many people agree that the "best feature" of synthetically produced cannabinoid analogs is that, by intention, there is "no high."

Amid all the hysteria surrounding cannabis and the no-longer-avoidable realization that it constitutes effective medication for a variety of human ills, this remains the core issue, which has always motivated prohibitionists: They object to the fact that some people like to ingest various things just for enjoyment.

Only a society suffused with this latter-day Puritan antipathy to other people's enjoyment of life would even consider spending millions or billions of dollars on research and development to remove the pleasure-giving properties of any drug before deigning to let sick and dying patients have access to it. I have no good wishes for these pharmaceutical companies, and will continue to work for total repeal of cannabis prohibition.

Patrick L. Lilly
Colorado Springs, Colo.

"They dared to
dream without
government
permission."

Biased Journalism—Again

The following letter ran in the March 18, 2001 edition of the Rocky Mountain News on page 7B.

As a nation, we mourn the loss of two children at the hands of a classmate who, searching for some attention, shot and killed them. The News was quick to respond "Again" as its headline the next day. Yet, as a Libertarian, I am compelled to look further and thus morn again.

On Feb. 26, a 19-year-old student at the University of California at Santa Barbara plowed his car—traveling at 60 miles per hour—into a crowd of college students in Isla Vista, killing four and critically injuring one. This didn't make the front page of the News, and we need to ask ourselves why. Had the police found a gun in the glove box of the car, it might have been "real" news.

Makes you wonder just what it is the News is selling—news or a political agenda. Apparently, killing with a car doesn't sell papers. Our children are crying out, and all we can do is talk politics.

Joseph C. Johnson

Fort Morgan Trip Nets Coverage

The March 21 edition of the Fort Morgan Times featured a color photograph on its cover of four Libertarians who attended an outreach meeting in the town. The event also generated radio interviews for local activist Michael McKinzie.

Dan Barker's newspaper article, along with an enlarged photo, filled over half of Page 3. It quoted liberally from State Chair BetteRose Smith, Outreach Director Brian Rachocki, Boulder member Michael Perkins, and House Candidate Trent Eichhorn.

Barker covered a wide range of Libertarian ideas in a straightforward way, covering such issues as federalism, civil arms, industrial hemp, and private food regulations. Discussing a restaurant shut down by the Department of Health for not having the proper licenses, Eichhorn said, "They dared to dream without government permission."

Barker ably summed up Smith's positions, noting that Libertarians are "trying to get back to bedrock constitutional principles. For example, getting the federal government out of schools, where it should never have intervened, since education is delegated to the states, letting business work without the heavy hand of government regulations or preserving the right to bear arms."

Privatize Health Care

The following letter was printed in the March 31 edition of the Daily Camera.

The Daily Camera's March 25 editorial about health care is correct in exposing the failings of a socialist Medicare system, but wrong in touting Mark Udall's effort at "pushing legislation aimed at correcting some of the worst flaws in the Medicare system." This perpetual revision should suggest to the Camera and even casual observers that this Medicare dog won't hunt.

Bereft with fraud, this medical system borrowed from geniuses like Hitler and Stalin is now revealing symptoms of end-stage disease. Producers are leaving the field, or, as the Camera reported in a separate article, doctors are refusing to accept Medicare patients. With rules and prices set in Washington, just as they are in Havana, why are we surprised?

Recent events have only bolstered the Libertarian case [outlining] government failure in such critical domains. High schools, where parents and students are

Libertarians Offer a Third Voice in Politics

by Jeff Wright

The inability of conservatives to understand or allow people to engage in personal freedom and liberty is counterbalanced by the inability of liberals to understand economics and property rights. The nation suffers repeatedly in the conflicts.

Case in point: The California power fiasco. It was a Republican governor and the California Assembly bowing to leftist environmentalist activists that resulted in the re-regulation of the power industry and then called it de-regulation. The results are now in.

It is the same environmentalist faction that will lobby against oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in contradiction of the facts. The ANWR is 19.5 million acres. The maximum area the oil companies intend to disturb and develop for drilling rigs and infrastructure is less than 10,000 acres. That is just a bit over 0.05 percent of the area of the ANWR. One-half of one-tenth of 1 percent! This is possible using modern drilling techniques.

If liberals successfully defeat opening up new oil and gas reserves and halt the building of power plants, they will be the first ones to cry foul when energy prices to the consumer rise. That is how silly they are.

On the other hand, in the War on Drugs Conservatives are the primary movers in attempting to keep drugs out of the hands of casual users and addicts.

Because conservatives demand that our government control any and every supposedly bad substance, they are destroying civil society. One million people in this country are now in jail for nonviolent drug offenses. Civil asset forfeiture laws have allowed police to gain revenue by taking private property.

People die or are profiled, harassed, searched or simply unnecessarily detained with regularity from errors made in warrants, no-knock searches, and traffic stops.

The increasing militarization of the police and complicity of the courts for this insanity has effectively repealed the First, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, 10th and 14th amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The war on alcohol could not be won in the '20s and the drug war will never be won now. At least government had the decency, prior to enforcing prohibition in the '20s, to pass a constitutional amendment to declare "war" on the citizens. Conservatives will continue to insist the drug war can be won against history and against our rights. That is how silly they are.

There are myriad issues from abortion to growth, to social programs, to property rights, to the environment and so on, *ad nauseam*. Pick any conflict between conservatives and liberals and you will see a clash where some freedom or liberty is being compromised or lost. Worse yet, they both make government bigger and take more away from everyone in taxes carrying out their successively failing programs. Government will grow no slower in the next four years than it did in the last four. It will just grow differently.

It is time for Americans to toss the two failing sides of the liberal/conservative agenda aside. The third way of the future is the Libertarian way.

Libertarians understand and practice both economic and personal freedom. The liberal/conservative way is the road to utter hell (culturally we are already there). Libertarians have never allowed themselves to forget both the truth and essence of the experiment in freedom, liberty and limited government started on this continent 11 score and five years ago. The state our society is headed for will demand that all eventually remember it.

Wright, a local businessman and activist, is a member of the El Paso County Libertarian Party. His article originally appeared in the Colorado Springs Gazette on Sunday, March 18.

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"It is time for Americans to toss the two failing sides of the liberal/conservative agenda aside. The third way of the future is the Libertarian way."

"Press" continued from page 12

denied choice, become toxic stews that spawn predictable violence. Why are we surprised?

California, the utopia of government solution, fixes utility prices from Sacramento and then rages indignantly as rolling blackouts become routine. When producers are suppressed, why are we surprised?

Libertarians will not soon be elected, in part because campaign finance laws militate against any challengers,

but they can take solace in the accumulating evidence that government causes more problems than it fixes. As more light is shed, more will awake. Meanwhile, will socialists, whether of Democratic, Republican, or Green stripe, be happy when all producers go on strike? And little remains to loot?

David Baker
Libertarian candidate for Congress,
Colorado's Second District, 2000

For State Senate and State House of Representatives, there is a qualification that you must be a resident of the district you will represent for one year prior to the day you are elected. Note that the specific date is the

day you are elected, not the day you begin serving. Election day in 2002 will be November 5. Thus, if you move on or after November 5, 2001, and you end up moving into a new district, you will not be able to be a candidate.

Of course, moving to a new address in the same district does not affect your qualification for candidacy. Since this is the year of redistricting, however, moving may have some interesting side

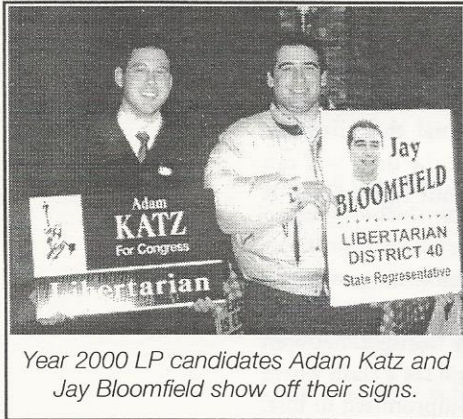
effects. This is, of course, one of the reasons why, by law, redistricting has to be completed by a certain date.

The Fair Campaign Practices Act, a Colorado statute, requires that all candidates adhere to the requirements of the law. Among these are requirements that you file declarations with the Secretary of State as to the individuals and companies with whom you have significant financial dealings. That is, file a list of all individuals and companies you might be inclined to treat favorably due to financial considerations.

You will not need to disclose the amount of money involved, only the names of the persons or entities involved. An obnoxious intrusion into your privacy to be sure. But it is a requirement of the law, and potential candidates need to know that they will be required to supply this information. Also note that while this information is not actually published, it is considered public information and the Secretary of State will make it available for inspection to anyone who requests it.

Finally, the Libertarian Party of Colorado will require that you indicate your agreement to the basic principles of the Libertarian Party by signing a statement to that effect.

I realize that for many of you, being a candidate is the last thing on your mind. However, being a "line holder" candidate requires virtually no effort on your part and can significantly help the party, and the cause of liberty, grow. Please take a few moments to review this information and do what you can to maintain your viability as a potential candidate. This is very important for the future of the party and, more importantly, the future of liberty for all of us and our children.



Year 2000 LP candidates Adam Katz and Jay Bloomfield show off their signs.

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LIBERTY CALENDAR

May • June 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	May	1 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395	2 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Broomfield , 7pm. Call: 970.870.8104 Douglas County 7 pm, 303.688.8624	3 Jefferson County 6 pm, 12895 West Arizona Ave. Call Slim Sulyma: 303.985.8085 Douglas County 7 pm, 800 Perry St. Call John Wright: 303.688.8624	4	5 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Fort Morgan In the Mood Coffee House at 2:00 pm. 970.542.9115
6	7 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett Rutledge: 303.740.8690	8	9 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Douglas County 7 pm, Call John Wright: 303.688.8624	10 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. TBA in Longmont. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	11	12 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's, 303.252.7808 Fort Morgan , 2:00 pm. In the Mood Coffee House 970.542.9115
13	14 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	15	16 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Routt County , 7pm. Call: 970.870.8104 Douglas County 7 pm, 303.688.8624	17	18	19
					State Convention See pages 4-5 for details.	
20	21 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	22	23 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call Carol Geltemeyer: 719.596.6799 Douglas County 7 pm, Call John Wright: 303.688.8624	24	25	26 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's, 303.252.7808 Fort Morgan , 2:00 pm. In the Mood Coffee House 970.542.9115
27	28 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	29	30 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call Carol Geltemeyer: 719.596.6799	31		

				June	1	2 People's Fair Civic Park in Denver
3 People's Fair	4 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett Rutledge: 303.740.8690	5 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395	6 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Broomfield , 7pm. Call: 970.870.8104 Douglas County 7 pm, 303.688.8624	7 Jefferson County 6 pm, 12895 West Arizona Ave. Call Slim Sulyma: 303.985.8085 Douglas County 7 pm, 800 Perry St. Call John Wright: 303.688.8624	8	9 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Adams County , 9 am Denny's, 303.252.7808 Fort Morgan , 2:00 pm. In the Mood Coffee House 970.542.9115
10	11 Boulder , noon. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	12	13 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.596.6799 Douglas County 7 pm, Call John Wright: 303.688.8624	14 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Call Lori VanBuren: 303.823.9695	15	16 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Fort Morgan In the Mood Coffee House at 2:00 pm. 970.542.9115

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What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the initiation of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you do have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical, or religious goals. This commitment helps us maintain our principles and provides us with a measuring stick to determine if we have strayed from our common goal: a society where all relationships among persons are based on voluntary cooperation.

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